



# GWHMUN 2024

## CONTINUOUS CRISIS COMMITTEE



### OPERATION ROLLING THUNDER

### BACKGROUND GUIDE



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



1. A Letter from the Executive Board
2. Introduction to CCC
3. Introduction to Agenda
4. Key Terms
5. Relevant Events/Timeline
6. Relevant UN Treaties/International Law
7. Crisis Rules of Procedure
8. Further Reading



# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



‘All great changes are preceded by chaos’ – Deepak Chopra

Greetings, Delegates! We are beyond delighted to have you here at the 2024 edition of Greenwood High's Junior Model United Nations (GWHJMUN)! We, as your executive board, would like to welcome you to the Continuous Crisis Committee (CCC). MUN, by nature, is bound to put one's diplomacy, negotiation skills, critical thinking and analysis, and knowledge to the greatest test in terms of geopolitical relations as a delegate, deliberator, and debater. You have a lot on your plate, to be honest, from engaging in general talks to important moderated caucuses that go deeply into each and every important aspect of your agenda. Your ability to handle these kinds of obstacles will eventually decide your skill level and placement. In addition, our committee has an interesting twist – crisis.

You are expected to imagine as if you're planted into the agenda's virtual time period – 1965 onwards. Unlike committees in the General Assembly, which follow set Rules of Procedure, in a crisis committee, you will be the writers of history, and you need not adhere to the historical timeline observed in real life, since the qualities, backgrounds, and spontaneous roles/perspectives of these portfolios will be imbibed in you. You will gather knowledge of the different kinds of documentation you can leverage in crisis committees to push your individual and joint agendas forward. Another unique characteristic of crisis committees is that you need not reach a general consensus. In essence, anything is possible, but the aftermath and outcomes of these events are decided by you and your portfolios. Hence, we advise you to gain extensive knowledge of the roles of your portfolios in the context of their countries' geopolitical relations, and what incentives they would have been trying to succeed in manifesting, in the previously mentioned time period.

As we guide you through this journey, we couldn't stress on this more: Activity is key. Clearly voicing out your perspectives without hesitation, contradiction, or pushing yourself into a corner amidst the chaos that crisis brings to the table, will be what gives you an upper hand over your fellow delegates. Do not fear the size and/or calibre of the committee. It is essential for you to learn how to use the crisis tools given to you to emerge as frontrunners of this agenda – from directives, crisis arcs, communiques, and press releases, to the content of these documentations and how it will determine the course of the committee. All in all, enjoy your time in committee, be creative and intuitive, and try to steer the CCC in the direction you want it to, to your level best. Beyond this, we hope you take an invaluable learning experience away from this conference.

We wish you the best of luck for the upcoming conference, Delegates!

Sincerely,

Head Chair: Rishikesh Madhuvairi ([rishikesh051154@greenwoodhigh.edu.in](mailto:rishikesh051154@greenwoodhigh.edu.in))

Vice Chair: Aarav Kejriwal ([aarav052072@greenwoodhigh.edu.in](mailto:aarav052072@greenwoodhigh.edu.in))

Vice Chair: Daksh Aggarwal ([daksh024805@greenwoodhigh.edu.in](mailto:daksh024805@greenwoodhigh.edu.in))



# INTRODUCTION TO CCC



The Continuous Crisis Committee (CCC) offers a distinctive MUN experience, deviating from the conventional MUN format by immersing delegates in a real-time, dynamic simulation of global affairs. The CCC's essence lies in its ability to emulate the unpredictability of the world stage, challenging participants to navigate a continuous stream of unforeseen crises.

Unlike other MUN committees with pre-defined sub-agendas, the CCC operates without fixed topics, aside from the committee's overarching agenda. Instead, it thrusts delegates into a responsive environment where crises materialise spontaneously, demanding immediate attention and strategic decision-making. Delegates must adeptly steer their nations through these challenges, adapting their approaches as new developments unfold.

The CCC mirrors the complexity of contemporary international relations, where circumstances can change rapidly, and unforeseen events can reshape diplomatic landscapes. In this committee, the traditional notions of lengthy negotiations are replaced by the urgency of crisis management, emphasising the need for swift, effective collaboration among delegates.

As you engage in this dynamic setting, keep in mind that success in the Continuous Crisis Committee hinges on your ability to think on your feet, respond to emerging situations with agility, and collaborate seamlessly with your fellow delegates. The challenges you face will test your strategic acumen, crisis resolution skills, and the art of diplomacy in its most dynamic form. Embrace the unpredictability, and remember that every decision you make contributes to shaping the course of the committee.





# INTRODUCTION TO AGENDA



The mid 20th century heralded a significant historical event that determined the relationship between the United States and the spread of Communism in the Orient, in the advent of the Cold War. This event was none other than the Vietnam War, which has now witnessed what could potentially be one of the United States' most significant air campaigns following the culmination of World War II.

Operation Rolling Thunder commences, hoped by many to be a vital aspect of the United States' intervention in the struggle for power between South and North Vietnam. The beginning of this aerial raid no longer than 6 days ago, aims to fulfil the United States' motives of upholding capitalist, democratic political structures in Southeast Asia, and preventing the spread of the USSR's political ideologies to neighbouring parts of the world.

A week post its commencement, Operation Rolling Thunder is targeting North Vietnamese infrastructure, supply routes, and military installations that had a tremendous bearing on the military autonomy of the Vietnam People's Army. However, coupled with the complexities of the Ho Chi Minh Trail and the elusiveness of the Viet Cong presence, the enhancement of diplomatic ties between North Vietnamese officials and the rest of the Communist world could pose significant challenges to the effectiveness of the bombing raid, diluting its intended military and civilian effects.

Beyond its military dimensions, the operation could possibly yield profound diplomatic repercussions across the global geopolitical diaspora. The international community may soon witness flaws in the perception of the United States, and protests and intense scrutiny of their interventionist policies have already erupted at home.

The members of this war room will have to devise mechanisms and informed strategies to navigate the confounding series of events that have led to this act of American aggression, stifle their enemies' motivations or arrive at mutually consensual ceasefires without further civilian consequences of Operation Rolling Thunder, with eyes peeled for an unprecedented, unprovoked turn in the future of their sovereignty, and the people they have sworn to lead and protect.

It is March 8th, 1965. This marks 6 days into a new beginning; 6 days into military aggravation and retaliation that divides and destroys all stakeholders, until and unless a decisive victory is made imminent...



# KEY TERMS



**Viet Cong:** The armed guerrilla force that supported the North Vietnamese Army in battling South Vietnam (late 1950s–1975) and the United States (early 1960s–1973). The name is said to have first been used by South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem to belittle the rebels shortly after the First Indochina War.

**Armed Militia:** An independent group of armed individuals (be it companies, civilians, or former members of a sovereign military) that operates as a paramilitary force and is typically motivated by a political or societal ideology. Militias are generally formed to defend individual rights against purportedly oppressive authorities and/or regimes.

**Partisanship:** Display of strong and often blind adherence to a political ideology or faction, developing hardline stances and approaches towards ideologies or factions that harbour sentiments opposing their own views and conformity standards. Partisanship was a major factor that internally divided politicians between political structures as the USSR established more military superiority and dominance over Indochina.

**Armistice:** A ceasefire initiated through a legally binding agreement that generally involves monetary, territorial, or political concessions made by the belligerents of a war; i.e a legally drafted culmination of a war that is mutually consensual to concerned stakeholders.

**Dien Bien Phu:** The basin within which the French-held garrison Vietnam fell after a four month siege led by Vietnamese nationalist Ho Chi Minh. After the fall of Dien Bien Phu, the French pulled out of the region, establishing complete sovereignty of the Communist Party of Vietnam over the region.

**Demilitarised Zone (DMZ):** An area, agreed upon between the parties to an armed conflict, which cannot be occupied or used for military purposes by any party to the conflict. Demilitarised zones can be established by a verbal or written agreement in times of peace or during an armed conflict, and are usually a term/provision made by an international body of oversight.



# TIMELINE



## **1945-1954 - First Indochina War:**

The First Indochina War ends with the Geneva Accords in 1954 which temporarily divided Vietnam along the 17th parallel. North Vietnam becomes a communist state, while South Vietnam is established as a non-communist state. French forces remained in the South, while Ho Chi Minh's forces controlled the North.

## **1959 - VietCong Insurgency:**

The National Liberation Front (NLF) was formed to overthrow the government of South Vietnam, and consisted of communist insurgents known as the Viet Cong. The Communist Party of Vietnam approved a "people's war", or "guerilla war" on the South at a session in January 1959 and this decision was confirmed by the Politburo (Policy making committee) in March.

## **Early 1964 - Planning**

As the United States attempted to resist the spreading influence of communism in Southeast Asia, the concept of continuous bombing against North Vietnam gained traction.

## **August 1964 - Gulf of Tonkin Incident:**

In August 1964, the USS Maddox reported being attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats in the Gulf of Tonkin. This event led to the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, granting U.S President Lyndon B. Johnson the authority to use military force in Vietnam.

## **Late 1964 - The airstrike decision:**

In an effort to pressure North Vietnam into stopping its backing for the VietCong insurgency in South Vietnam, President Lyndon B. Johnson and his advisors chose to launch a protracted bombing campaign against the country.

Operation Rolling Thunder planning began in January 1965.

## **January 1965 - Planning the operation:**

Operation Rolling Thunder was meticulously planned. It was driven by the belief that bombing North Vietnam would force Hanoi to cease its support for the Viet Cong. The U.S. hoped to weaken the North's infrastructure, disrupt supply lines, and decrease its ability to wage war in the South.



- **February 7, 1965 - Pleiku Incident:**
- The North Vietnamese Army (NVA) attacked the U.S. military base at Pleiku in South Vietnam. Eight American servicemen were killed, and over a hundred aircraft were either damaged or destroyed.
- 
- **February 13, 1965 - Operation Flaming Dart:**
- Operation Rolling Thunder's initial airstrikes were carried out under the codename "Operation Flaming Dart." In the days following the Pleiku incident,, "Operation Flaming Dart" was ordered, which involved bombing targets in North Vietnam. This marked the beginning of direct U.S. military involvement in the conflict.
- 
- 
- **March 2, 1965 (Freeze Date) - Full scale Operation Rolling Thunder commences:**
- With the official start of Operation Rolling Thunder, the United States targeted important North Vietnamese military and industrial sites. Destroying SAM (surface to air missile) sites and antiaircraft artillery, as well as other air defences in North Vietnam, was the first priority.
- 
- 
- **March 8, 1965 - First Phase Completed:**
- The Rolling Thunder first phase came to an end. In order to prepare for later phases that would target industrial and transportation infrastructure, the focus of this phase was on taking out North Vietnamese air defences.







# RELEVANT UN TREATIES/INTERNATIONAL LAW



## 1. **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964):**

2. The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution was passed on August 7th, 1964, as a response to the Gulf of Tonkin Incident, and granted U.S President Lyndon B. Johnson the authority to increase U.S military involvement in the ongoing war between North and South Vietnam.

## 3. **Further Reading(I)**

## 4. **Further Reading(II)**

## 5. **Geneva Accords (1954):**

The Geneva Accords were a collection of documents created after the Geneva Conference in 1954, which aimed to settle issues resulting from the First Indochina War (1946-1954).

The key provisions of the Accords included:

**Temporary Division:** Vietnam split at the 17th parallel—North (communist) led by Ho Chi Minh, South (anti-communist) led by Ngo Dinh Diem.

**Elections for Reunification:** Planned for 1956, elections aimed to reunite Vietnam under a single government, allowing people to choose their leaders.

**Ceasefire and Withdrawal:** Ceasefire declared, foreign forces to withdraw. France left, ending its colonial presence.

**International Control Commission:** Established to oversee accord implementation.



# CRISIS RULES OF PROCEDURE



Rules of procedure refer to the formal conduct delegates are expected to maintain during the conference. It is essential to adhere to the rules and maintain decorum for the smooth flow of the committee. For this conference, we will be adhering to the UNA-USA format of rules of procedure.

## **Begin formal session**

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allotted country” puts forward a motion to begin the formal session.

## **Setting the Agenda**

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allotted country” puts forward a motion to set the agenda as “Agenda of the committee”.

## **Roll call**

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allotted country” raises a motion to begin a roll call. When your allotted country is called upon during the roll call, you have two options either say “present and voting” or simply say “present”. (Note: If a delegate says “present and voting”, they cannot abstain from voting on the resolution at the end of committee.)

## **General Speaker’s list**

Committee generally begins formal debate by starting the ‘GSL’ (General Speaker’s list). It serves the purpose of allowing a delegate to express their stance on the agenda. A GSL is non-exhaustive.

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allotted country” raises a motion to establish the general speakers’ list

## **Moderated Caucus**

This motion can be raised when the committee wants to debate on a specific topic.

How to raise it?: The delegate of “your allotted country” raises a motion to suspend formal session/debate and move into a Moderated Caucus on “topic” for a time period of “x” minutes allotting “x” minute per speaker. In case a delegate does not get recognized to speak, a delegate can send in your point through substantive chit.



### **Format of substantive chit:**

Substantive chits are written as follows;

To: The Executive Board (may be abbreviated as

From Delegate of: (your allocated country)

### **Unmoderated Caucus**

This motion is proposed when delegates wish to discuss the committee's status among themselves and further evaluate their next actions.

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allotted country” raises a motion to suspend formal debate and move into an unmoderated Caucus for a time period of “x” minutes.

### **Points**

1) Point of Parliamentary Enquiry: This point is raised by a delegate to clarify anything regarding the rules of procedure or to know the status of the committee (For example: to know which delegate is speaking next/ if the EB is accepting more speakers)

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allocated country” raises a point of a parliamentary inquiry.

2) Point of Personal Privilege: This point is raised by a delegate to address a personal issue. (For example: to ask another delegate to repeat a point they made in their speech/to be excused from the committee)

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allocated country” raises a point of personal privilege.

3) Point of Order: This point can be raised by a delegate to point out logical or factual inaccuracies in the speeches of other delegates.

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allocated country” raises a point of order, Factual inaccuracy/ Logical Fallacy (either one)

4) Point of Information: This is raised when a delegate wants to ask questions about another delegate's speech.

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allocated country” raises a point of information

If you ask a question and are still not satisfied with the answer, you can raise a follow-up question right after the delegate answers.

How to raise it? : The delegate of “your allocated country” wants to raise a follow-up question (Note: This point can be denied if the Chairperson feels so).

If a delegate wants to ask a question VIA chit, you can use this format :

### **POINT OF INFORMATION**

TO: Delegate of “country you want to question”

VIA: Executive Board

FROM: Delegate of “your allotted country”

\* \*\*state the question\*\*



## F➤ Crisis ROP/Documentation Guidelines

- Provisional Speakers' Lists and Special Speakers' Lists

A delegate may choose to raise a motion to enter a Provisional Speakers' List (PSL), wherein the Executive Board will select, through their discretion, a certain number of delegations to speak for or against the agenda (which is specifically the nature of this invasion) in an alternating sequence. Note that Day 1 will begin with a General Speakers' List to encourage maximum participation and inclusivity, while speakers' lists on the following days are left to the procedural voting outcomes of the delegates themselves. A motion to enter a Special Speakers' List (SSL) will be entertained to substitute classic moderated caucuses, when delegates wish to discuss specifically the nature of the crisis at hand, in relation to the committee's crisis updates.

- Special Crisis Elements

The extent of legal implications on the state of war in this committee leads to the certainty of introducing additional, yet valuable crisis elements, including but not limited to: Emergency Special Summits, trials, and presidential statements (involving any and all types of leadership positions via EB discretion). Depending on the volatility and progression of the War following committee deliberation on Operation Rolling Thunder, delegates may be expected to write committee directives (bloc-wide or unanimous), peace treaties or settlements, international licensing agreements, trade charters, arms embargoes and any other types of documentation that in large part, resolve major existential issues in committee through their specialisations, in a dynamic manner. In order to further their political agendas in the CCC, delegates will be expected to write individual directives, communiques, and press releases of any kind. Directives are objective crisis notes that provide detailed, intuitive, and thoroughly strategized operations and plans that achieve a particular goal in committee. Communiques serve the same purpose, except in letter format, directed to a specific persona/portfolio that is absent in committee.

If committee progresses such that delegates will compile a Draft Resolution succeeding the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution as a legal premise for future conflicts, then the crisis at that particular time will need to be addressed through an annexure, which is an extension of the legal document that addresses specific issues outside of the rigid domains of the Draft Resolution itself. The EB will brief delegates on crisis documentation in live committee sessions, but for reference, delegates may refer to the sample crisis documentations below.





Here are some more specific details on crisis notes:

### Crisis notes

A crisis note refers to documents you can submit to the EB in order to further your plan or to simply announce something to the committee which you could not have said in a speech. There are three types of crisis notes:

1. **Communique:** A communique is a message being sent from your portfolio to an individual/group outside of the committee. This can be used to request resources, plan a joint attack, etc.
2. **Press release:** A press release is an announcement to the committee. It can be from you, or you can submit it as an anonymous source. All press releases will be read out to the committee in its entirety. If submitted as an anonymous source, it will still be read out, but the committee will not know who it is from.
3. **Directives:** A directive may be Overt (the whole committee will know the plan and objective), Covert (the plan is only known to those directly involved), or committee wide (The entire committee agrees and contributes to the directive, and the plan is presented to the committee). A joint directive may be either covert or overt, where two or more delegates put in a joint effort to achieve a goal. Directives need to be **AS DETAILED AS POSSIBLE** to improve your chances of it passing.

A directive can meet one of the following outcomes:

1. **Pass:** The directive passes in its entirety, and the goal will be achieved without any conditions.
2. **Fail:** The directive was either not detailed enough, or its goal was unachievable. Regardless, the goal in the directive was not achieved.
3. **Pass with conditions:** The directive passes, but the outcome is not exactly what was mentioned or the plan did not follow the preferred route.
4. **Fail with conditions:** The directive failed, but still had some effect on the committee.



## Sample Directive

### *Operation Taiwan*

By : United States of America, Republic of China (Taiwan)

Signed: India, Japan, United Kingdom, Indonesia

To: The EB

### Joint Covert Military Operation Directive

**OBJECTIVE:** To Neutralise the Chinese presence in Taiwan to further prospects of a reverse invasion and liberation of the Taiwanese mainland claimed by Chinese aggressors, through a series of coordinated actions by the QUAD-SCC and Allied Powers

### **Procedure :**

I. The USA marine corps, Japan's Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade and Taiwanese forces collaborate to push the Chinese out of Taiwan, by incorporating the:

A. Creation of beachheads (temporary line of defence, generally on land-sea boundaries, until further reinforcements come)

B. Use of LCAC (Landing Craft Air Cushion) for transport of weapons, defence systems, reinforcements, personnel like Marine Air/Ground Task Force both from ship to shore and across the beach.

C. Indirect participation of Japan in the above strategies as well, similar to 2013 Senkaku Islands drills.

D. Marine Semi-guerrilla warfare, moving Chinese troops towards the Northern Coast, until a full-fledged retreat to the Chinese shore occurs.

II. Airforce: The Japanese and American Air Forces shall station air troops in Taiwan. This is to prevent the Chinese from entering Taiwan and also threaten the opposition's entry into China.

III. The USA will send a carrier strike group headed by the USS Gerald R. Ford, carrying 10 F35 Lightning II along with & 4 B-52 Bombers from the 2nd Bomb Wing of the US Air Force. Using radar imagery from technology onboard the Gerald R. Ford, along with satellite imagery, the US Navy will ascertain locations for the Chinese bases in the Paracel islands. Following this, all B52 bombers on the Gerald R. Ford will take off for the Paracels & will bomb all Chinese military installations. 7 F35 Lightning IIs present onboard will provide them with reconnaissance backup & can help the Bombers complete their missions, as per the accord of the commanding officer of the Gerald R. Ford.

IV. The British Navy's strike group, led by HMS Queen Elizabeth, shall move Northeast of the Paracel islands, following the operation undertaken by the Japanese and American air forces and the Taiwan front of the blockade at Truro Shoal. This shall be transformed as a base for future crises thus increasing the allied forces' presence northwards in the South China- Sea, essentially driving Chinese presence slowly out of the region in that hemisphere altogether. All formerly deployed Southeast Asian battalions will assist this strike group.



A. 10 The Hsiung Feng II (HF-2) anti-ship missiles which lock onto the target developed by the technology of the TMCS will be supplied to the aforementioned troops, developed by Taiwan to stall the Chinese fleets off the Taiwanese shore.

V. The Indian Navy will make its way through the Malacca Strait to the Naval Base Heracleo Alano in the Philippines on the 2nd of January 2022 at 5AM IST. 5 Indian frigates will be on way to the mentioned naval base. INS Shivalik, INS Tarkash, INS Trikan, INS Beas and INS Betwa will carry SA-N-12 surface-to-air missiles through 3S-90 missile launchers working in partnership with the stationed frigates.

VI. The Japanese, American, and British Navy along with their Airforce that have yet to be utilised by the completion of the pushback, will be stationed at the Eastern Taiwanese cities of: Dawu, Taimali, the Dulan Forest and Coastline, Chenggong, Changbin, Fengbin, Lanyu AND Hualien. The Indian Navy shall be hosted in the Spratly archipelago claimed by Taiwan with support from the American blockade that has indefinitely suspended Chinese naval operations and trade, in case the invasion provokes/emboldens Chinese forces to divert the alliance's attention back to the South China Sea for a flank invasion of Taiwan.

## Sample communique

To: The Tsar of Russia

Dearest Tsar,

Our patience has worn thin over the past few years, and the public will not cooperate with your tyrannical reign much longer. The many injustices you've inflicted upon us and our brothers have not gone unnoticed, and the time for action has arrived. We issue this message as a warning: we will soon be taking action to further our own interests, and this action will have major repercussions for you and your country. We're offering you one last chance to meet our demands. Be warned that if you do not take this option, you will surely regret it.

Sincerely,

The Chancellor of Germany



## Sample Press Release

From : Anonymous

Donald Trump, the self proclaimed Son of God, was caught accepting bribes from a secret underground organisation believed to be the illuminati. His response on the subject is yet to be heard, with him planning to make a presidential statement to the world within the next week. In light of these events, riots have broken out across the states, with citizens reportedly planning a coup. What happens next entirely depends on the president.

Please keep in mind that neither of these samples are specific to the agenda. They serve as a collective guide for one to understand formatting, procedure, and the requirement for detail in each type of documentation that is sent to the Executive Board. It does NOT serve as a template for extracting content that is in any way whatsoever related to this committee's agenda.

Furthermore, kindly note that a session on Crisis Rules of Procedure, key elements of a Crisis Committee, and other notable aspects to be considered during the conference, may be held on the day of committee before formal session, in order to clear selective doubts and confusion regarding nuances in ROP. Crisis documentation, specifically directives, communiques, and press releases, will also be revisited in this session.

**NO PRE-WRITTEN CRISIS DOCUMENTATION WILL BE CONSIDERED.**





## Further reading

[H-017-2: Operation Rolling Thunder Overview \(navy.mil\)](#)

[Operation Rolling Thunder - Vietnam War - WorldAtlas](#)

[Operation Rolling Thunder - Definition, Vietnam War & Timeline \(history.com\)](#)

[Operation Rolling Thunder - Wikipedia](#)

[Wayback Machine \(archive.org\)](#)

[Rolling Thunder 1965: Anatomy of a Failure \(archive.org\)](#)

[Wayback Machine \(archive.org\)](#)